



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
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CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION
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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 19, 2007

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Attorney General Asks Kanawha County Circuit Court to Find Princeton Asphalt Paver In Contempt of Court

Attorney General Darrell McGraw filed a Petition today, asking the Circuit Court of Kanawha County to find asphalt paver Huey Small, from Princeton, West Virginia, in contempt of court and incarcerate him until Small pays the restitution he owes victims of his unlawful scheme.

In 1997, the Attorney General's office sued Huey Small, a Mercer County man, who went door-to-door with truckloads of "leftover" asphalt. Small convinced consumers to get their driveways paved. The price of the work was inflated and the quality was shoddy. Frequently the asphalt crumbled, and weeds grew through it within a week. Most of Small's victims were elderly and felt intimidated when he demanded they pay for the work with large sums of cash. In some cases, Small's men escorted the victims to their banks to withdraw money or get a check cashed.

Attorney General McGraw won the case in 1998, and Small was ordered to pay \$125,000 in restitution for consumers. Small failed to pay the judgment and in July of 2000, the Attorney General's office filed contempt charges against Small. When Small failed to appear for the proceeding, the Honorable Charles King, Circuit Judge, ordered Small jailed until he purged himself of contempt. It was not until May of 2002 that police finally learned of Small's whereabouts. He was arrested by police in Princeton, West Virginia, and was jailed for eight months until he agreed to make monthly payments of \$500 until the judgment was satisfied.

In today's filing, the Attorney General's office alleges that Small has habitually failed to make his court-ordered monthly payments, and is currently behind \$5,500. The Petition asks the Court to issue a capias for the arrest of Huey Small, and to order Small to appear and show cause why he should not be found in contempt of court.

Any consumer who has been victimized by a scam paver, or anyone with knowledge as to the whereabouts of Huey Small, should contact the West Virginia Attorney General's office, at 304-558-8986 or 1-800-368-8808.

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